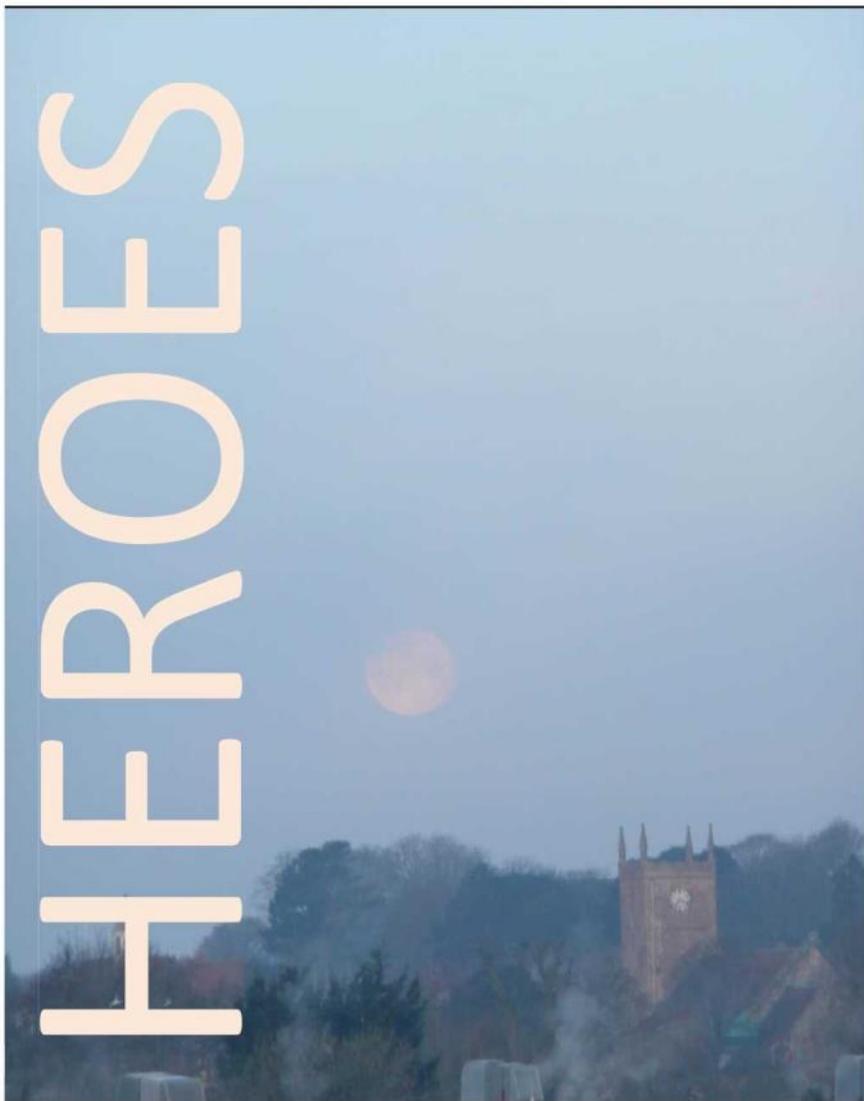

TOWER_{AND}TOWN

HEROES



MAY 2016 50P

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TOWER_{AND}TOWN

THE MAGAZINE OF MARLBOROUGH'S COMMUNITY AND CHURCHES

NUMBER 659 MAY 2016



Heroes

In this issue of Tower and Town we are celebrating the fact that communities can be greatly enriched by the deeds of their heroes and heroines. The contents depict a rich canvas encompassing theatre, politics, sport, faith and science, family, and even super-heroism.

Nicholas Fogg writes to us on the pervasive influence of Shakespeare in his life and his encounters with 20th century Hathaways and Shakespeare during his youth in Stratford-upon-Avon. Louise Elkington recounts key French influences on her life, including that of Teilhard de Chardin and his family. Peter Osmond serenades John McEnroe's extraordinary stature and his influences. Matt Gow draws our attention to the politics and social reforms instigated by Hobhouse, whilst Toby Wyles (a Marlborough College student) defends the record of our youngest PM, Pitt the Younger. Roy Smith writes in praise of those unsung heroes, your parents, who stick with you through thick and thin; and he then considers the daily grind of being a super-hero through a piece on Batman.

One of my own modern heroes is Lisa Jardine (1944-2015), who developed novel ideas about the European Renaissance; and who was celebrated by another hero, Astronomer Royal Martin Rees, in his 2015 Guardian piece "My Hero". Another is Dame Zaha Hadid (1950-2016), the most decorated female architect, with a passion for flow and beauty in modern architecture. Most especially, I would like to dedicate this issue to my hero and mentor Professor S E Hunt, author of *Fission, Fusion and the Energy Crisis*.

Raik Jarjis, Editor

Front cover: Raik Jarjis

William Shakespeare: Nicholas Fogg

My Loving Good Friend & Countryman

‘Between Heaven and Woolworth’s’

The Liverpool poet, Brian Patten, describes his birth as taking place ‘somewhere between Heaven and Woolworth’s’. If I were to make the same claim, the store in question would be as unique as Heaven, because the branch in Stratford-upon-Avon was the only one whose façade was painted in gold. Perhaps it was considered to stand on sacred ground, reflecting the feelings about the place expressed by James Boswell during David Garrick’s famous Stratford Jubilee of 1769. Delighted with the occasion, he dashed off celebratory verses and rushed them round to one Fulke Weale, who advertised printing at one hour’s notice. ‘I suppose taking it for granted that Stratford would produce a general poetic inspiration that would exert itself every hour.’

Boswell’s view of the literary prowess of the Stratfordians was not shared by all. ‘In most places the Almighty spreads His Genius through the population’, remarked the music publisher, Vincent Novello, ‘but in His inscrutable Wisdom, in Stratford-upon-Avon he poured it all into one man, which has left all the other inhabitants bereft of wit for generations to come.’

As an old Stratfordian, I’m proud to have given my share of genius to William Shakespeare – and there were compensations. One of my companions on the school bus was a rose-cheeked lass called Sue Hathaway. When I came to man’s estate, the barmaid in my local was called Judith Quiney – the married name of Shakespeare’s younger daughter. Most impressive of all was Sid Shakespeare, the first local to appear in the gear of the 50s youth cult, the Teddy boys. His bootlace tie, crepe soles, winkle pickers and fluorescent socks earned him the title “King of the Teds”.



I must mention also that my sister-in-law is a descendant of Shakespeare’s Aunt Agnes and therefore my genes mingle with his through my brother’s children. A final bonding comes from the fact that we share the same birthday. Tradition says that he was born on April 23rd by the reckoning of the Julian Calendar, which miscalculated the length of the year. When Shakespeare was seventeen, the Pope introduced the Gregorian Calendar, which corrected this accumulated error. It was then 10 days, so April 23rd is in fact May 3rd. My birthday!

When I was a kid, older folk in Stratford used to compare actors like Peggy Ash-

croft, Paul Scofield and Lawrence Olivier with those of a lost golden age: Ellen Terry, Basil Rathbone and Robert Donat. The most dominant name was that of Sir



Frank Benson, who was usually referred to as 'Pa'. He effectively began the artistic life of the theatre after its foundation by a local brewer, Charles Flower. Thus what is now the Royal Shakespeare Theatre was founded by local effort – as was its counterpart in Stratford, Ontario. This the two Stratfords have in common.

Benson's company was as much remembered for its prowess on the sporting field as on the stage. 'Send me a fast bowler to play Laertes', Pa is reputed to have once telegraphed his agent. He was an exponent of what we would now call community theatre. The old touring companies would recruit locals to play the extras. In Stratford these were known as 'supers'. Benson liked to think he'd picked them from Shakespeare's relations. 'Of course, they'll be bastards. Bound to be.'

Another fortune of my childhood was that a theatrical legend was in digs just a few doors away: one with bushy eyebrows and a subterranean voice. Sir Donald Wolfit began every rehearsal with the words 'There are very few of us left'. I suppose that there are now none of them left, but the phrase may be taken as a theatrical motto in any age. It could have been said by William Shakespeare during the period between when the infant theatre was shut by plague and the actors' companies were literally decimated. In 1592, the poet is first mentioned as being in London, not as an obscure actor, but as a hugely successful playwright. He had come a long way since the previous mention of his name seven years before in the baptismal record of his twin children.



As is my custom, on April 23rd, I will attend the Shakespeare Birthday lunch and will join in the toast to the 'Immortal Memory of William Shakespeare'. We can truly be proud that he is our 'Loving good friend and countryman.'

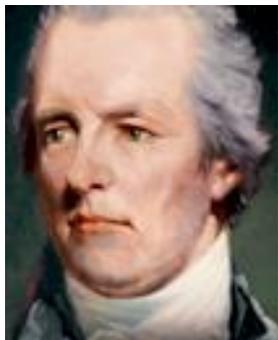


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William Pitt The Younger: Toby Wyles

“Oh how I leave my country” – the last words of William Pitt the Younger – a patriotic liberal and not a reactionary conservative.

Although often characterised as a reactionary Conservative by Modern Liberals, it is a firm belief of mine that Pitt was liberal.



The youngest Prime Minister of all time, he came to office in 1783, aged 24, liberalising the British economy that was on its knees having just lost the American Colonies. This included a National Debt which was 20 times the Government’s annual revenue in 1783. Pitt transformed Britain’s economic status by lowering and in some cases eliminating repressive taxation on trade and businesses such as the tea tax which he reduced from 119% to 25% and replacing them with progressive taxes on luxuries such as taxes on hearths, windows, gloves and even wig powder tax. If individuals didn’t want to pay the tax, they didn’t have the luxury. These measures lifted Britain out of its economic turmoil. Pitt would continue to be inventive in his economic policy - income tax was raised for the first time in 1797 in order to keep up with the demands of the War.

Pitt attempted electoral reform in 1785 although it would take until 1832 to gain it. At the age of 26, he was already ahead of the political sentiments of his time.

Pitt pioneered the liberal cause in the early days of the French Revolution claiming that “The Present Convulsions in France,” as he told the House, “must sooner or later culminate in general harmony and regular order, and thus circumstanced France will stand forth as one of the most brilliant Powers of Europe. She will enjoy just that kind of liberty which I venerate.” Pitt only declared war on France once France had declared war on Britain in the heat of the Jacobin Terror which killed 20,000 people in Paris alone.

Pitt died whilst in office. Having already resigned in 1800 over his favouring of Catholic Emancipation - a bold and liberal move - he came back in 1804 and died in 1806 having laid the economic and liberal foundations on which Britain would defeat the oppressive Napoleonic France. He was a true liberal and patriot and does not deserve the reactionary and conservative label that he is often given.

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John McEnroe: Peter Osmond

In 1981 I was nine and John McEnroe won Wimbledon for the first time, beating Björn Borg. This followed their epic encounter in the 1980 final, scene of perhaps the greatest ever tie-break - 20 minutes long, which McEnroe won 18-16, heroically saving 5 championship points.

The early 80's was a golden era of tennis with three of the all-time greatest players, McEnroe, Lendl and Connors, playing out memorable encounters. My parents and their friends at Ramsbury tennis club watched Wimbledon avidly; their enthusiasm was infectious and I took a keen interest in playing and following tennis. Nobody who watched tennis at that time could fail to have a view on McEnroe and he certainly polarised opinion. I did not know at the time what it was about his tennis that so captivated me. I am not sure that I know now exactly.

At the age of nine I knew little about the game of tennis, but I could tell there was something so different about McEnroe from other players - he just didn't play tennis like it was supposed to be played. He didn't stroke the ball like one is taught to, he seemed to 'swat' his forehands; he served with his back to his opponent, generating extreme slice and in doing so would drag a trench with his toe behind the service line on the grass court. He was not powerful, but had cunning disguise over the direction of his shots. Above all though, he had the most sublime touch with volleying, especially the drop volley.

As I was writing this it was troubling me that being (very, very) good at tennis seems rather unworthy of being deemed a hero when considered against, for example, acts of selfless bravery in life-threatening circumstances. However I will console myself that, although a tennis player does not operate on a battlefield as did ancient Greece's heroes - the original heroes - a sporting encounter is often metaphorically referred to as a battle. The classical heroes, celebrated for their prowess in battle, often carried a fundamental flaw. McEnroe had a very obvious flaw, his temper.

McEnroe would have been a fantastic character in a Greek tale. One could almost imagine the gods teasing and tormenting McEnroe, goading him into one of his infamous outbursts, where he could seem seconds from self-destructing in an incandescent rage against a line call (and sometimes did); but then the double-edged sword of that fearsome anger blended with a gritty New York determination to win and sublime skill would enable him to overcome his opponent.

McEnroe's superlative skills and enthralling character were thrilling and for me. His inspirational performances made me want to emulate his play in that early period in my life when one has the potential, the time and the self-belief to dream of being like one's hero.

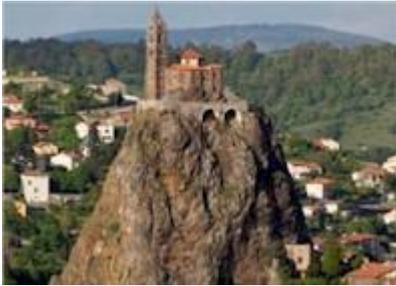
French Encounters: Louise Elkington

During the 1950s, as a young student, I stayed with two families in France and encountered two people I regard as personal heroes.

The first was a secondary school teacher, Valentine Charlier, a friend of my tutor who arranged for me to stay with some friends of hers, the Imbs family. Paul Imbs was at that time a professor at Strasbourg University, and he and his wife, Odile, had four daughters, which was great for me and we are still in touch.

Mademoiselle Charlier was a gentle, unassuming woman who was always there to help others and, as I got to know her better, I came to admire her greatly. When I returned later to study in Strasbourg, the first group of German students since the end of WW2 were back at the University, largely due to an initiative by Professor Imbs, thoroughly approved by Mademoiselle Charlier. Only later was I told that she had worked for the French Resistance during the German occupation, I believe as a wireless operator, whilst employed as a maid in the local German commander's house. For me, she was a quiet hero who always stepped up to the plate.

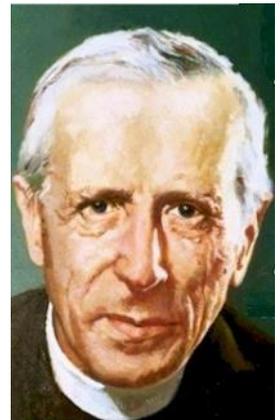
The following summer my hosts in Auvergne were two sisters, Marguerite and



Alice Teillard-Chambon. Their cousin, Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, was a Jesuit priest and distinguished palaeontologist and philosopher. It was during his youth in Auvergne that he developed his interest in geology, leading on to palaeontology. I never had the good fortune to meet this hero myself, as he had died in the USA the year before, but members of his family told me a great deal about him. What appealed to me

then were the stories of his remarkable work during WW1. He opted to be a stretcher bearer, declining promotion beyond corporal, in a regiment of colonial soldiers, mostly Muslim. He was in the front line for the battles at Ypres, Arras, Dunkirk, Verdun and the Marne. He survived unscathed and was called “Sidi Marabout” (something like “Sir Steadfast”) by the soldiers.

Marguerite, a writer herself, was Teilhard's friend and correspondent until his death. She understood and shared his ideas on science and religion (ideas she tried without much success to explain to me), ideas which brought disapproval from his superiors and the church authorities at



the time. This resulted in his virtual exile from teaching and publishing, a situation he apparently bore with fortitude, continuing his research in China and later living in a Jesuit community in New York State. After his death, Marguerite edited and published his *Lettres de Voyage*, and I still have the copy she gave me.

Heroes aside, how lucky and privileged I was, as a youngster, to be welcomed with such kindness into these two French families.

Heroes at Home: Roy Smith

As you grow up you think of your parents as, well, your parents. They aren't people as such, just your parents and you love them unconditionally roughly until you get into double figures and then they are horrible nasty ogres who just want to spoil all your fun and stop you doing ANYTHING! And you really should not have to do all that homework when there is a really good programme on the TV and the games console just really needs to be warmed up.

By mid teens, your bedroom door is a no go zone and the dinner table looks like the Somme unless there is an independent negotiator like a relative or neighbour, when you can be sweetness and light just to prove it's all their fault.

Then when you reach late teens a sort of harmonious truce is introduced where you can both coexist in the same country without starting a small war then you leave for Uni or that magical "own place". Usually not to return.

Later in life, when you are married and have offspring of your own, you start to realise what heroes your parents actually are. How they loved you, looked after you and did their best for you, even without an instruction manual. They managed to get you through school, looked after all the little disasters like when you fell off the climbing frame and broke your arm or fell off your first motorbike and ruined all your clothes. As you get older you see how they look after each other and how they still think of you first, even as they find it more difficult to get up the stairs or walk down the road to the shops.

You then recognise the courage they have shown to get you to where you can survive successfully on your own and the bravery they showed facing up to you armed only with (some) reason and discussion when you were at that impossible age and all they really wanted to do was hit you with a cricket bat.

Then you realise that they are heroes and that they should have got a medal for their efforts, but never will - just like yours won't, when your children have grown and flown the nest.

Hobhouse - Social Reformer: Matt Gow

My political hero is Leonard Trelawny Hobhouse. ‘Who?’ I hear you ask. Well it's no surprise you might not have heard of him as he isn't someone you will find much information on. However you might be surprised to learn after you've read this short piece, just how influential he was in shaping modern politics in Britain. More specifically I have chosen to write about him because his early life was forged and shaped in Marlborough. He was born in St.Ives, Cornwall in 1864 where his



father was Rector, but he attended Marlborough College which was of course a school founded to educate the sons of clergymen. Growing up in a time when the disparity between the rich and poor was threatening the stability of countries across Europe and leading to the development of revolutionary socialist movements, he decided to study at Oxford when he left Marlborough and there became a student and disciple of the great modern Liberal thinker T.H. Green.

Hobhouse became particularly fascinated by the process of social change and how liberal ideas could become reconciled with collectivism. In other words how modern states could serve the interests of communities without disadvantaging the aspirations of the individual. Don't forget there was no Labour Party at this time or a welfare state as we know it today. Drawing on his wide reading of other disciplines like philosophy, psychology, biology and religion he began questioning the social theories of the time and in particular the Liberal Party's minimalist approach to the role of the state. Who was going to look after the poor and destitute who were growing in number? Surely the state had to play a more proactive, interventionist role? How could the state underwrite this without disincentivising people's aspirations by taxing them to death?

After graduating from Oxford, Hobhouse stayed on as a Fellow (1887-97) teaching and writing before moving on to become the first professor of sociology at the London School of Economics (1907-29). In that long, distinguished career, he wrote for the *Manchester Guardian* and for a short time was political editor of the *Tribune*. In academic circles he became well known for rejecting the idea of *laissez-faire* politics, because he believed that a certain degree of universal cooperation was necessary to fulfil the potential of individual men and women. Before you start thinking he was just an early socialist, be aware that he disapproved of Fabian socialists (intellectual lefties!) because he believed they fostered a kind of cooperation that might lead to more bureaucracy, which would hinder progress.

Many of you might argue he was right!

So what in the end did he achieve and why is it worth remembering and celebrating his contribution to political history? Well it was his ideas which largely influenced the Liberal government of 1906 and led to local authorities providing free school meals for poor children and later for school medical inspections to begin, (although it was not until 1912 that free medical treatment was available). At this time the National Health Service did not yet exist and the poor could not usually afford medical services. To address this, the Liberal Government introduced the National Insurance Act in 1911. The second part of this Act insured workers by giving them seven shillings (35 pence) unemployment benefit a week for a maximum of 15 weeks in any year if they became unemployed. This scheme was also financed through a combination of worker and state contributions to the scheme. In 1908, the Liberals introduced old age pensions which became law in 1909. This Act gave pensions of five shillings per week (25 pence in today's money) at the single rate to persons over 70 whose incomes were less than £21 per year.

Overall, Hobhouse's ideas marked a transition point between old *laissez-faire* attitudes and those of a more collectivist nature. Although in the grand scheme of things his writing and ideas only made limited inroads into the problem of poverty, it led to governments becoming much more willing to intervene and help the poor, although the expectation was also that the poor help themselves by making contributions towards their benefits. The next time you get free healthcare, housing benefits, unemployment benefits or just draw your weekly pension remember that L.T.Hobhouse made it possible!

ISRAELI PALESTINIAN SITUATION

Paul Longden

will speak of his experience of the
Ecumenical Accompaniment Program in Palestine and
Israel

at Quaker Meeting House
The Parade, Marlborough
on Wednesday 11th May 7.30pm

All welcome. Tea and coffee will be served

Reluctant Hero: Roy Smith

A light flickered in the sky and he was instantly awake, turning over and quietly grumbling “can’t they manage for five minutes”. He swung his legs over the side of the bed and glanced at the clock. Although he already knew the time the confirmation seemed to make the complaint more righteous.



He felt bone weary. This was the fourth interruption in one night, individually not big disruptions but together enough to sap the energy and dedication. It did not do much for the day job either and although he did not need to work he felt it best to keep up appearances and the perception of normality.

He reached for the suit and pulled it on, movements becoming quicker with repetition and familiarity, settling the seams comfortably until finally he pulled on the underpants. No one seemed to know why he had to wear them

on the outside, it just lent credence to the final appearance. Although to be fair, he had not felt it appropriate to ask many people and perhaps it was just his personal inclination. Best not to delve too deeply into that one!

He did not really understand why he kept doing it, day after day, night after night without a break. Perhaps that’s what he needed, a holiday away somewhere, but he had tried that and it did not make any difference: same demands, just a change of scenery. Oh well! He walked to the window, opened it further and jumped out.

It was only three quarters of an hour later when he climbed back in, with the satisfaction that he had saved over a thousand lives. He started to remove his clothes, pants first of course. As he hung them in the wardrobe he thought again about sleeping clothed to save time, but he had often thought of it before and always concluded that somehow it was disrespectful to the image and people would disapprove. So much of life is about perception and meeting the expectations of others and he did not want to let them down.

Finally he shook out the duvet and climbed in. It would take a while now for it to warm up again, especially at this time of the morning, but the tiredness took over and he began to drop off to sleep. His final thought that drifted away with his consciousness was, “why on earth did I want to be a superhero and why oh why did I give them the wretched light!”

When I Awaken into the Night: Robin Ward

Like our reluctant hero on the previous page, Robin Ward has an issue with waking up at night. (Editor)

When I awaken into the night, this is what I feel;

Coldness rolls over my skin – the air like a thick smoke of melting ice. With the moonlight's brightness, there comes no warmth. Warmth is found in the smaller things; the misaligned spectrum of pencils in the boxes, the paintbrushes with dried artworks hanging from their ends, the perfectly stacked books – half read, half hidden masterworks.

When I awaken into the night, this is what I see;

Through burning, hungry pupils I note soft blues and whites dripping from moon-blessed surfaces. I see the shapes of my furniture, my clothes - emerging from the dark first. The truest view of identity is reflected; and yet, why is it just an un-clean mirror? My eyes, now crawling over the walls, watch for... No matter - I've found more mirrors.

When I awaken into the night;

I feel. I see. I fall into the covers of sleep. Then, like the dreams that fade to inconclusive ends, all this is forgotten – although I remember these moments, I walk into a dream that I have constructed, and I fill its greys with colour. I find heightened imagination within the walls of evenings and nights; the moon through watercolour clouds shines briefly upon a greater truth, which even the forceful light of sun cannot expose. As I flavour my emotions with salt, I realise uncovering the Venetian mask of great thoughts requires war-paint-thoughts of subtlety.

About the author

My name is Robin Ward, I am 17 and currently coming to the end of my two year IB course at St John's, Marlborough. During time away from working I am an avid volunteer of Marlborough Brandt's Fairtrade Steering group, alongside my personal interests of writing and music. I find great enjoyment in the expression of ideas and emotions through language and sound.

What's on in May

Regular events

Every Monday

7.30pm: Christchurch. Marlborough Choral Society.

Every Tuesday

10-11.30am: Christchurch. Friendship Club.

2.45pm: The Parlour, Christchurch. Women's Fellowship.

Every Wednesday (or some Wednesdays)

10am: Jubilee Centre. Drop-in, Tea/Coffee. 12.30 Lunch.

1.30-3.30pm: Town Hall. Sunshine Club for the over 55s.

2-3pm: St. George's. Teddy Prayers & Picnic for under 5s and carers (2nd & 4th Weds)

7.30-9pm: St Peter's Church. Marlborough Community Choir.

Every Thursday (or some Thursdays)

10am: Jubilee Centre. Drop-in, Tea/Coffee. 12.30 Lunch.

10.30-12 noon: Kennet Valley Hall, Lockeridge. Singing for the Brain. Alzheimer's Support. 01225 776481. (Every Thursday during term-time.)

1.30-3.30pm: Wesley Hall, Christchurch. Macular Society (last Thursday in the month)

Every Friday

10-12 noon: Christchurch Crush Hall. Food bank and coffee morning.

Every 2nd Saturday

10-12 noon: Library. Marlborough & District Dyslexia Association. Drop-in advice. Help line: 07729 452143.

May calendar

1st - 5th (Sunday- Thursday)

10am-5pm (from 12 noon on Sunday) St Mary's Church. Painting & Sculpture Exhibition by Paul Hobbs: 'The Heart of Things'.

2nd (Monday)

11am-4pm Bushton Manor, SN4 7PX. Open Garden and Plant Fair. Entry £2. In aid of St Peter's Church, Clyffe Pypard.

4th (Wednesday)

7.30pm Wesley Hall, Oxford Street. WI. Lecture by Kim Wakeham: 'Resolution: History of Marlborough Victorian Graveyard'. New members welcome.

7.30pm St Peter's Church. Marlborough Community Choir: Free Taster Session.

7th (Saturday)

11am-3pm St Mary's Infant School. Spring Fun Day.

7.30pm St Peter's Church. Concert by local musicians Helen Pysnaczyn (clarinet) and Shelley Morgan (piano). Tickets on door.

- 9th (Monday)**
 2pm Kennet Valley Hall. Embroiderers' Guild. Talk by Helen Deigham: 'Going Potty'.
 7.30pm Bouverie Hall, Pewsey. Pewsey Vale DFAS. Lecture by Douglas Skeggs: 'Prague: the City of the Winter Queen'. 07775 683163.
 7.30pm Friends' Meeting House, The Parade. Marlborough Poverty Action Group meeting. All welcome.
- 11th (Wednesday)**
 12.30pm 40 St Martins. Widows' Friendship Group Lunch. 514030.
 7.30pm Court Room, Town Hall. Friends of Savernake Hospital AGM + speakers.
 7.30pm Friends' Meeting House, The Parade. Talk by Paul Longden on the Israeli Palestinian Situation.
 7.45pm Wesley Hall, Oxford Street. Gardening Association. Talk by Rosina Brandham: 'Joseph Paxton Part II'.
- 12th (Thursday)**
 7.30pm Town Hall. Film: 'Suffragette' (12A). £5 in advance, £6 on door.
- 14th (Saturday)**
 9.30-12noon Town Hall. Gardening Association Plant Sale.
 8pm St Mary's Church Hall, Silverless St. Marlborough Folk Roots. Concert: 'Megson'
- 15th (Sunday)**
 3pm Bridge at Preshute House. Duck Race in aid of St George's Roof Repairs.
 7.30pm St Peter's Church. Concert. Brilliant Young Pianist: Ashley Fripp. £10 (£8 members of St Peter's Trust and MBG).
- 16th (Monday)**
 11am Ellendune Community Centre. Kennet DFAS. Lecture: 'The Anatomical Drawings of Leonardo da Vinci'.
 7.30pm Kennet Valley Hall. KV National Trust Association. Lecture by David Bridges: 'Uppark House: Characters and Restoration'.
- 18th (Wednesday)**
 7.15pm Film: 'Frankenstein' (Royal Ballet) (12A). £15 in advance, £17.50 on door.
- 19th (Thursday)**
 7.30pm St Peter's Church. History Society. Lecture by Neil Stevens: 'Yanks in the Kennet Valley: the friendly invasion of the Marlborough area by the USA in the Second World War',
- 21st (Saturday)**
 10am-4pm The Merchant's House. Open Day. Free Entry.
- 22nd (Sunday)**
 8am Marlborough Common. Car Boot Sale. Cars £8, Vans £10. 516928. In aid of Wiltshire Air Ambulance Appeal.
- 26th (Thursday)**
 St John's Academy. End of Term 5.
 7.30pm Town Hall. Film: 'Bridge of Spies' (12A). £5 in advance, £6 on door.

What's on in May (continued)

May calendar (continued)

27th (Friday)

7.30pm St Peter's Church. EU Referendum. Question and Answer Session hosted by the Green Party and Dr Molly Scott Cato MEP for SW will also be there.

28th (Saturday)

Marlborough College. Start of Half Term.

2pm Postern Hill Savernake Forest. 'We're going on a Bear Hunt'. Family activity for 0-5 year olds). Older siblings welcome. 513010.

From the Registers

Baptism

10 April Isla Hazel Presley and Imogen Niamh Taylor at St Mary's

Departed

28 February June Rose Pike (84) of 31 Laineys Close, Marlborough
St Mary's and Marlborough Cemetery

9 March Graham Arthur Savin (78) of Housesteads, Cross Lane, Marlborough
St Mary's and West Wiltshire Crematorium, Semington

10 March Iris Maude Rerolle (96) of 5 Castle Court, River Park, Marlborough
West Wiltshire Crematorium, Semington

10 March Audrey Mavis Hopwood (82) of Marlborough Lodge, Marlborough
St George's and Kingsdown Crematorium

13 March Eileen Elizabeth Emily Moss (91) of 33 High Street, Manton
St George's and Kingsdown Crematorium

22 March James 'Jim' Edmund Buckley (95) of Highfield Residential Home, Marlborough
St Mary's and Marlborough Cemetery

3 April David 'Dave' Reginald Clarke (81) of 20 Berrycroft, Minal
West Wiltshire Crematorium, Semington

Heroes of 1915: Andrew Ross

In Memoriam June 1915

Private Charles Pike. 1st Battalion Wiltshire Regiment. Killed in Action. 16th June 1915.

Captain John Garrett Bussell. 7th Battalion Royal Sussex Regiment. Killed in Action. 28 June 1915. Captain Bussell was an assistant master at the College.

In Memoriam July 1915

Gunner Wilfred Wiggins. Royal Garrison Artillery. Killed in Action. 25th July 1915.

2nd Lieutenant. Thomas Keith Headley Rae. 2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade. Killed in Action. 30th July 1915. Lieutenant Rae was an assistant master at the College.

In Memoriam August 1915

Private William Thomas Bailey. 1/4th Battalion Welsh Regiment. Killed in Action in Gallipoli. 11th August 1915.

In Memoriam September 1915

Private John Albert Devis. 1st Battalion Wiltshire Regiment. Killed in Action. 24th September 1915.

In Memoriam November 1915

Private Frederick John Sawyer. 2/4th Battalion Wiltshire Regiment. Killed in Action. 22nd November 1915. Mesopotamia.

Private Stanley Gordon Woodman. 8th Battalion Wiltshire Regiment. Died at home of illness. 29th November 1915.

Private Edric Alfred Baker. Royal Army Service Corps. Killed in Action. 30th November 1915.

In Memoriam December 1915

Private William Henry Burden. 2/4th Battalion Wiltshire Regiment. Killed in Action. 28th December 1915. Mesopotamia.

Family News compiled by Audrey Peck

It is difficult to believe that **John and Doreen** Dunsby are leaving Marlborough. They feel such a permanent part of the town and of St. Mary's Church, having always been regular attenders at Sunday morning services. John was a Church Warden for 4 years. They moved in to their newly built house in Barrow Close when they were just married. They are going to live a few doors away from their daughter, Claire. She and her husband, like so many young people looking for a more affordable house, bought a home in Devizes. John grew up in Minal and went to primary school there, then to the Secondary Modern school when it was in former military huts on the Common. He was apprenticed to Dobson's Garage and worked for Stuart and his father, Ray, for 41 years before becoming self-employed until he retired 8 years later. Doreen lived in Devizes and did secretarial work there for T. H. Whites and after her marriage she gave clerical support to various people including the first Bishop of Ramsbury, the first Head of St. John's School, Mary Marsden, the Rectors of St. Mary's, Jeremy Walsh and Wilfred Down, and Amor and Ellis Builders. Their daughter, Claire, has two daughters and their son, Michael, and his fiancé have a baby daughter. Michael works as a photographer for Gloucestershire Police Force and lives in Ross-on-Wye. John's family have long connections to Marlborough. His grandfather, a cabinet maker, installed some of the woodwork when the Town Hall was built. We wish them every happiness in their new home.

St. Mary's said goodbye with a special cake to Doreen and John and at the same service welcomed baby **Imogen Taylor**. Her parents, Teresa and Sean, brought her to be christened. Her godparents were Jenny Anderson and Sam Railton. Imogen was surrounded by family including her young cousins.

John Bower received the Legion D'Honneur Award recently for his services in the D-day and Normandy Landings. A sergeant in the 1st Northamptonshire Yeomanry he took his Sherman tank into heavy combat on Gold Beach in June 1944 and then to Operation Goodwood in July to take back Caen from German occupation. John suffered severe loss of hearing when a tank exploded near him. He tries to go back each year and knows how grateful the French, young and old, are for the British part in their liberation.

Rosie Hill helped to open a new 9-hole short course set within the existing Marlborough Golf Course to encourage new players of all ages. It is named after Robert Hill and Freddie Boardman who did so much to encourage young golfers.

Freda Hart and family are mourning the death of her son, **Philip**, who died

suddenly driving home from work in London. He was christened in St. Peter's Church, was a choir boy in St. Mary's and his first job was with Haine & Smith, opticians, in the High St. When he was 8 Freda joined Philip and his brother, Stephen, at the Golf Club, a game he always thoroughly enjoyed. His funeral was at St. Mary's. Deep sympathy to all the family, especially Philip's son, Charlie.

June Pike who died recently was born in London. Her family moved out to avoid the blitz in the war and settled in West Kennet. She married her late husband, Ron, a Manton man, in 1957 and came to Marlborough. She worked in the White Horse Book shop for 38 years and was recognised by children who had gone to St. Mary's Infants School as their dinner lady. She enjoyed crosswords and loved going to Tom Jones concerts. Her children, Deidre and Neil, arranged a tea party to celebrate her life in the Polly Tea Rooms because it was her favourite place for coffee. She will be sadly missed by them and her grandson Nathan.

At **Jim Buckley's** funeral his son, Chris, spoke of his father as a firm, dedicated, generous father and teacher with a strong Christian faith. Jim's years studying history and classics at Oxford were interrupted by 3 years' conscription in to the army where he became a major and served in India. His first post was here, at the Grammar School. Some of us who were in his history classes were in the church. He married Jackie in St. Mary's in 1950. Later he was appointed Head of Down High School, Northern Ireland, retiring to Marlborough 32 years ago to indulge in his hobbies of hill walking, canal boating, cycling and bell ringing. His recent years were spent in the comfort of Highfield Residential Home. His daughter, Philippa, was not able to attend but Chris, 8 grandchildren and his baby great grandchildren were at the church and the burial in the cemetery.

Eileen Moss (nee Whiting) was born in Devizes but moved to Manton at a young age with her parents and younger sister, Joan. She attended Preshute School and Marlborough Grammar School, and later worked for the Post Office where she met her husband, George. They married in 1947, and in 1951 moved to the bungalow in Manton where they both lived for the rest of their lives. They had a daughter, Susan, and a son, Nigel, and two grandsons. Eileen was very proud of her four great-grandchildren. She loved knitting and sewing, was a keen gardener and a member of Marlborough Gardening Club for many years. She and George were also members of Marlborough Bowls Club. Eileen worked at Rawlings & Phillips and Dible & Roy, and later enjoyed many years of voluntary work at the Prospect shop. Her funeral was at St. Mary's on April 8th.

Clergy Letter: Heather Cooper

Change

Noel Coward once said that “No-one likes a change except a wet baby.”

There is also the old joke of “How many Methodists (or Anglicans, or Catholics...) does it take to change a light bulb?”

Change!!!!!!

Yet life is full of change. We see it in the passing seasons, especially at this time of year as new life bursts out as winter passes again.

New life can be seen in the fields and even sitting in the middle of the road. A baby rabbit had a near miss as I drove back from Aldbourne recently.

We see change in children growing up. My youngest nephew delights in the fact that he is taller than me. In our own lives we experience change, some good and exciting, some sad as well.

In our society we also see many changes. Sometimes it feels as if things are changing so fast we can't keep up.

Yet - there is a wonderful sense of excitement in changes. They mark our growth as people, helping us to develop our potential as human beings. New experiences bring wisdom and maturity that enable us to cope.

As the Church continues to celebrate the Easter season and anticipates the great festival of Pentecost, we celebrate an event that changed the lives of Jesus' disciples and has changed the world.

As life has changed with the passing centuries so has the Church and it will continue to do so, just as our own lives change with the passing years. Do we embrace the changes with excitement and eager anticipation or do we just want to pull up the drawbridge and hide?

For me change is what makes life exciting, even when I yearn for things to be simpler. A broken pencil was so much easier to fix than a computer which has a creative approach to its spell-checker, or the sat-nav that allows you to explore strange new roads that were not always designed for modern cars.

As the world around us changes with the season and the pace of events, we may find at the heart the security of God, Creator and Lord.

One last thought. A scientist was asked if there was a specific term used to describe organisms that were not constantly changing. After a brief pause he replied, “Yes - it's dead.”

Enjoy the changes - they can be a great adventure.

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Marlborough Medical Practice: Patient Participation Group (PPG) Update

Travel advice and vaccinations (incl Yellow Fever) available. Travel forms available from reception or <https://www.mysurgerywebsite.co.uk/secure/travel.aspx?p=J83037>. Based on the travel form, nurses assess vaccination needs prior to appointment. Practice nurses attend regular travel health study days and have access to up to date travel health information.

Book to see a nurse six weeks before travel, as some vaccinations, eg Hepatitis A and B, require a series of injections. Vaccinations will take 10-14 days to build up immunity in the body.

Diphtheria, tetanus and polio: free. Rabies and yellow fever: pay. Full details available from the practice, or <http://www.marlboroughdoctors.org.uk/page1.aspx?p=1&pr=J83037&t=3&high=fees> All malarial prophylactic medication needing a prescription are private prescriptions.

Local private clinics can offer you these services if our Practice cannot meet your needs.

Marlborough Churches Together

Please check pages 25-27 for special services and events.

Regular Sunday Service times

Christchurch, New Road (Methodist)

9.00am Worship

10.30am Morning Service with Junior Church and crèche

Society of Friends, Friends Meeting House, The Parade

10.30am Meeting for Worship

St George's, Preshute (C of E)

8.00am Holy Communion (1st and 3rd Sunday)

10.00am All Age Service (1st Sunday)

Parish Communion (other Sundays)

St John the Baptist, Minal (C of E)

8.00am Holy Communion BCP (2nd Sunday)

9.30am Parish Communion (1st and 3rd Sunday)

St Mary's, behind the Town Hall (C of E)

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP on 4th Sunday)

10.00am All Age Worship (1st Sunday); Parish Communion and Junior Church and crèche on all other Sundays

5.30pm Informal service (except on 1st Sunday)

St Thomas More, George Lane (Roman Catholic)

11.00am Sung Mass (See also below)

Marlborough College Services are shown at the College Chapel

Weekday Services

St Mary's Informal Prayer: 8.00 am Wednesday
Holy Communion: 10.30 am Wednesday

St Thomas More Mass: 10.00 am Mon, Tues, Wed and Sat
Holy Days: 10.00 am

St George's Informal Prayer: 8.00 am Wednesday
Teddy Prayers & Picnic: 2nd & 4th Wednesdays, 2-3pm
Tea Time followed by Evening Prayer: 4.30pm Weds.

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NEWS from the Churches

Ascension Day Thursday 5th May

Please join us at a special service for Ascension Day with Marlborough Deanery in Holy Cross church, Ramsbury., starting at 7.30pm. The preacher will be the recently appointed Archdeacon of Wiltshire, The Venerable Sue Groom

Women's Fellowship: meetings at 2.45pm Christchurch .

- 3rd May Trevor Durston, The Leprosy Mission.
10th May Rosie Beal
17th May Rev. Bob Toogood
24th May Kate Trowbridge
31st May No Meeting (Bank Holiday)



Marlborough Area Poverty Action Group (MAPAG)

MAPAG meets on Monday 9th May in the Friends Meeting House at 7.30pm. All are welcome. More details from Rachel Rosedale: rachelrosed1@gmail.com.

Paul Hobbs Art Exhibition at St Mary's

The Heart of Things: Painting and sculpture

- 3rd May Lunch time talk; 12.30: bring your own lunch; coffee and tea provided.
Pizza and Pictures; 6.30 – 8pm; for 11 – 18s.
4th May Stay and Play between; 2 and 3pm; for under-5s and their carers.
Prayer and Meditation; 7.30pm; time to reflect and pray.

The exhibition ends on Thursday 5th May.

Faith Pictures

Marlborough Anglican Team are exploring their faith through a course called 'Faith Pictures' which is suitable for all church traditions. The course will be offered over six weekly sessions over the summer. You can contact the group leader if you would like to join a group, or if you would like to find out more, or start your own group, please contact one of the Anglican Team clergy.



Faith Picture Groups starting in May and June:

Wed 4 May (daytime) Jill Moss jillemoss@btinternet.com.

Mon 9 May (evening) contact Mike Maclachlan madmaclachlan@onetel.com.

Tue 10 May (evening) contact David Maurice david_maurice2000@yahoo.com.

Wed 15 June (evening) contact Miri Keen miri.marlbroughteam@gmail.com

NEWS from the Churches, continued

Filling Station

Filling Station meet on Wednesday 25th May. We welcome back Tony Martin, the pastor of a church in Glastonbury. Filling Station meets from 7.30-9.30pm at St Peter's Junior School, Marlborough SN8 1LQ. More details from Helen Stokes - hcestokes@gmail.com.



New Youth Group (ages 10-14) at St Mary's

We meet weekly (apart from the first Sunday in the month) at Christchurch, and move to St Mary's Church to join the 5.30pm Informal Worship Service. If you're interested, come along and see what it's like. If you would like to help in any way or for further information, please contact Janneke: 515970.

Devotion Hangout

Hangout@The Mead runs from 6.30pm-9pm on Tuesdays.

Hangout@Devotion runs from 7pm-8.30pm on Thursdays at the Wesley Hall.

There is an informal service at 9am on Sundays at Christchurch, suitable for young people. More information on the website, www.devotion-marlborough.co.uk. Please pray for the work of Devotion with young people, and for the mentoring that Peta is involved in on Tuesdays in St John's School.



Christian Aid Week, 15th-21st May

Ecumenical Christian Aid Sunday Service at 10.30am on 15th



May 2016 in Christchurch and the speaker will be Stephen Dominy, the Regional Coordinator

for Dorset and Wiltshire. Stephen has worked with Christian Aid for over eight years and visited partner projects in Bolivia, Peru and Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territory. This year he was privileged to host and accompany Rezwana Islam, a Christian Aid colleague from Bangladesh, as she gave a series of presentations about the situation there. The encounter has inspired and informed his speaking ever since. All are welcome.



Kathy and Ian Perryman need help with **Christian Aid street collections** on Saturday 21st May. Please contact them on ian.perryman@onetel.net or 514550.

Marlborough Churches Together: fraternal meeting

Fraternal meets on Wednesday 4th May. Please contact Alison Selby if there are any comments you wish to raise at the meeting.

MCT are looking for a new Secretary from this September. If you would like to know more about the role of the secretary, please speak to Alison Selby. If you would like to be considered for the post please speak to one of the clergy.



Quiet Day, Saturday 14th May, St Katharine's, Savernake

Organised by Wiltshire Churches Together. St Katharine's is a hidden treasure set in the middle of the beautiful Savernake Forest. It will be led by the Revd Clare Downing, the Moderator of the URC Wessex. The theme is "Wait Here" - preparing for Pentecost. Come and open your heart and mind in prayer and stillness. Bring your own lunch – drinks provided. More details from Alison Selby and please book through Liz Overthrow e-mail : liz.overthrow@btinternet.com tel: 01380 722404

Israeli-Palestinian Situation

Paul Longden will speak on his experience of the Ecumenical Accompaniment Program in Palestine and Israel at the Quaker Meeting House on Wednesday 11th May, 7.30pm. All are welcome; tea and coffee will be served.

The Revd Heather Cooper

Heather is on Sabbatical during May, June and July. If you have any enquiries about Christchurch during that period, please contact either Alison Harris or Kate Trowbridge.

Marlborough Gardening Association



PLANT SALE
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Theme	'Fun In The Sun'		

Every Month

<i>What's On</i>	Karen Osborne	whats.on@towerandtown.org.uk	514364
<i>News from the Churches</i>	Alison Selby Crossmead, Kingsbury St, SN8 1HU	church.news@towerandtown.org.uk	511128
<i>Family News</i>	Audrey Peck 7 Castle Court, Marlborough SN8 1XG	family.news@towerandtown.org.uk	289065

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